

THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers

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YOUTH! CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL LIEBKNECHT DAY!

Join the Struggle Against Exploitation, War and Misery!

YOUNG WORKERS OF AMERICA!

All over the world the young workers are rallying to the flag of the revolutionary youth, under the leadership of the Young Communist International. On the anniversary of the murder of our immortal leader, Karl Liebknecht, the young workers gather to demonstrate against the system which Liebknecht fought during his life.

In the United States, under the leadership of the Young Workers League of America, the young workers are joining hands to demonstrate against the menaces that confront them; against capitalist exploitation, child labor, coming imperialist wars, unemployment, and misery.

It is the duty of the young workers, those who feel most heavily the iron fist of exploitation of life and health, to be in the forefront of the struggle against capitalism. It is their duty to organize in the shops and mines and fields to fight against the common enemy of the working class, capitalism.

Young Workers of America! You are subject to the exploitation of the worst capi-

talist government and boss class in the world. Almost from the time that you are able to think you are taken into industry, there to produce profits for the boss at the expense of your health and life. Thru the instruments of capitalist mind enslavement, the schools, the newspapers, the movies and the church, you are prepared to serve the master without protest. You are taught to hate the ideals and principles of the workers and the revolutionary movement. You are prepared to take the place of the adult workers, to be used as the instruments for lowering their wages, lengthening their working day, increasing their miseries.

Especially today when the spectre of unemployment is spreading all over the country, young workers are being used to take the jobs of the older slaves, at a lower wage and with longer hours. Where the workers go out on strike against this lowering of their standard of living, the bosses seek to get young workers to scab on them with the protection of the police and militia and army of the capitalist's government.

Are you going to permit yourself to be prostituted as a tool of the boss?

Even the tiniest children are used to coin profits for the boss class. Millions of working class children toil under the most horrible conditions, with the lowest wages and longest work-days, for the wealth of the capitalists. Millions of proletarian children suffer for the luxuries of the parasites. Millions wait hopelessly for some sign of relief for their miserable conditions.

The workers must unite against the menace of child labor which saps the strength and vitality and lives of the young generation of the proletariat. The workers must struggle against child exploitation and demand the abolition of child labor, the maintenance of the child worker by the state and industry.

With the growing misery of the workers, comes the increased profits of the capitalist class. In their hungry search for greater profits, the capitalists seek to extend their power to other lands, to exploit the resources and labor of foreign countries. The

conflict between rival capitalist nations is leading to new and more bloody wars. The fake slogans of the American capitalists that the last war was "a war for democracy," or a "war to end all wars" has been proved a lie! They are preparing for more murderous wars. And it will be the young workers who will serve as the first victims if imperialist greed. The Dawes Plan, which is being extended from Germany, Austria, France and other countries is breeding another slaughter. The rivalry between the United States, France, England and Japan, especially in China and the rest of the Far East, is drawing closer to a head.

Will you remain silent and inactive in the face of this coming slaughter? Will you allow yourselves again to be sacrificed for the profits of American capital?

Young Workers! Rally to the demonstrations on International Liebknecht Day, on January 11th! Demonstrate your solidarity with the victorious young proletarians of Russia, with the working class revolution all over the world. The Russian workers have

taken the first determined step towards freedom from capitalism. Despite the enmity and intervention of the united capitalist jackals, Soviet Russia stands out today as the beacon light of the militant working class in every corner of the globe.

Demonstrate against capitalism and capitalist miseries!

Demand the maintenance of child workers and the abolition of child labor!

Demand the shortening of the workday of the youth to six hours with a five-day week.

Unite for the release of working class political prisoners!

Combine for the struggle against the Dawes Slave Plan!

Down with Capitalist wars! Up with the war of the workers against their masters!

Long live the revolution of the Russian workers and peasants!

Long live the Young Communist International and the Communist International, the leader of the revolutionary working class!

Rally to International Liebknecht Day!

Rosa Luxemburg

"Rosa Luxemburg was the luminous intelligence of the Communist Party of Germany."—Zinoviev.

NOT only in Germany, but back in Poland, her birthplace, did Red Rosa Luxemburg have a revolutionary history. As a young girl she was banished for little articles she had published. She fled to Switzerland, where she studied thoroly the science of Marxism, not as a professor and academic student, but a revolutionary ardor and a hatred of the system that is crushing the lives of the workers in its terrific maw.

Together with Leon Tychko (Jogiches) she organized the revolutionary socialist party of Poland, outlining for it its Marxian principles and tactics. When, later, she went to Germany, she carried on a relentless struggle against the compromisers and traitors in the ranks of the German social-democracy, exposing the falsity of their conceptions, their prostitution of the principles of Marxism to their own opportunism, their entire reformist ideology.

Her prophecies that the leadership of the Socialist Party of Germany was rotten to the core were proved to be only too true with the coming of the war. Like Liebknecht she was thrown into jail at the opening of the war; like him, also, she continued her agitation against the imperialist war and the socialist-chauvinists as soon as she was released. She was the author of the famous Junior pamphlet, in which she bitterly excoriated the socialist traitors and denounced the war as an imperialist venture. All thru the war she was most active in the internationalist group which held aloft the red flag of revolution, working with abounding energy for the principles of socialism and the internationalism. Just as she had fought, against the revisionism of Eduard Bernstein, so she fought against the reformist leaders and their policies of selling out the workers to the greed of the imperialists.

She worked in close harmony with Liebknecht and Mehring for the building up of a mass Communist party in Germany. From the small Spartacus Bund, which carried on such heroic struggles against the capitalists and their tools, the socialists, to the later struggles, her scientific knowledge of the principles of revolutionary Marxism were a constant guide to the activities of the Communists.

Her trenchant pen struck deeply into the hides of the traitors of the workers. Her keen mind did not permit a single action of the socialists to go unchallenged and unridiculed. She became a thorn in the sides of these lackeys of the imperialist murderers of Germany. Like Liebknecht, her fate was sealed with the moral complicity of the socialists.

On the same night that Liebknecht was murdered she also was taken into the automobile of the beastly officers. A trooper struck her on the side of the head twice until she fell unconscious, blood streaming from her head. Leaving her

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Liebknecht and Luxemburg



CHILDREN DEFY BOSS TEACHERS

CANADIAN JUNIORS BEATEN FOR REFUSAL TO SING PATRIOTIC BUNK

KID REDS FORCE BACKDOWN

By MALCOLM BRUCE.

TORONTO, Canada.—The schools in the mining camps of the Drumheller Valley, like all other capitalist schools, are attempting to make supporters of the capitalist dictatorship out of the children of the workers. But in this propaganda the agents of the ruling class are meeting with determined resistance upon the part of the children of the proletariat.

In a school in Drumheller, the teacher had the patriotic jargon of "O Canada" written on the blackboard and each day the kids were asked to sing the thing.

Refuses to Sing.

John Swedish, 11 years old, whose father is dead, refused to so prostitute himself as to sing this anti-working class song. The teacher then demanded that he salute the capitalist flag

which is flaunted in every room. He refused, and started for the door. The teacher tore the sweater off him in trying to prevent his going; but he went. The teacher then sent a note to his home requesting him to return to school under pain of expulsion. John's brother, a member of the Young Communist League, replied with a bill for damages to his brother's clothes. The teacher did not pay, but apologized for tearing the sweater.

John remained at home for several days and the children in school began to talk of a strike. Finally John came back, but no "O Canada" was sung but instead "The Red Flag" was recited by many of the other kids.

Follow the Example.

What was accomplished in Drumheller can also be accomplished elsewhere. It is the duty of the working class parents to back up the children in this revolt against the revolting capitalist propaganda under various guises carried on in the schools. And particularly it is the duty of their older brothers to support the revolt by making the teachers realize that the town or village will be too hot to hold them if they persist in tamely carrying out the program of the bosses and polluting the minds of the workers' children with the patriotic and religious sewerage of the capitalist class.

BOSSSES LINE UP FOR CHILD WORK

FORM NAT'L COMMITTEE TO FIGHT AGAINST THE 20th AMENDMENT

LABOR BAITER HEADS GANG

By CHARLES WITTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The forces that are really behind the movement to prevent even the slightest action towards relieving the miseries of the child workers of America is seen from the letter head of the National Committee for the Rejection of the Twentieth (child labor) Amendment.

Look at the Gang.

The letterhead bears the following names:

Millard D. Brown, chairman, Continental Mills, Philadelphia, Pa.

C. A. Anderson, the Norton Co., Worcester, Mass.

P. E. Glenn, Exposition Cotton Mills, Atlanta, Ga.

W. A. B. Dalzell, Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago, Ill.

W. H. Leonard, the Denver Rock Drill Manufacturing Co., Denver, Col.

W. Frank Carter, Carter, Morton & Jones, St. Louis, Mo.

Frederick W. Keough, director, Washington, D. C.

John C. Gall, secretary, Washington, D. C.

The director of this gang, Keough, is an editor of Industrial Progress, a notorious labor-baiting rag published at the seat of America's bootleggers and would be politicians, Washington.

The character of those fighting to retain child labor should convince the workers of this country that they must give their loins for a real relentless struggle against the horrors of child slavery.

DRIVE OPENS IN NEW HAVEN, CONN

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE TO BEGIN FACTORY DRIVE AT SARGENTS'

WIDE CAMPAIGN OUTLINED

By BARNEY MASS.

The small but promising league of New Haven, Conn., is beginning a campaign against the Sargents Co. The plant here employs about 3,000 work-

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50 More Dollars From Los Angeles

AFTER having done itself proud by tripling its quota for the Weekly Young Worker by sending in \$150, altho its quota was only \$50, the Los Angeles league has outdone itself by sending in another \$50! This is what we call real good stuff. It is now up to the other leagues to follow the excellent example of Los Angeles! Let the dough roll in!

Other leagues have done excellently in the drive and we are waiting for the full results by March 1st, when the first number of the Weekly Young Worker will be sent out to the readers of our paper.

Rush in your money and don't hold out on us! We need it now! We want that Weekly Young Worker by March First!

Karl Liebknecht

KARL LIEBKNECHT was born at the time when his illustrious father, Wilhelm, was serving time in jail for having carried on socialist agitation in Germany. From his very youth, even as a student, he was interested in the revolutionary movement.

Seeing that the trade union and social-democratic party leaders were ignoring completely the problem of the youth, Liebknecht exerted his energies in an effort to organize the young workers for the revolutionary movement. He interested himself especially in the problem of anti-militarism, and in 1906 he gave a series of lectures to the socialist youth, later published in book form, which created such a sensation that the Kaiser had him tried and sentenced to 18 months of imprisonment, with the addition that all copies of his famous book, "Militarism and Anti-Militarism," should be destroyed.

His popularity with the workers increased rather than decreased. He was elected to the Prussian legislature where he continued to expose the militarist machinations of the German boss class, lashing them to the mast of their own hypocrisy.

It was the last world war that brought the name of Karl Liebknecht on the lips of every class conscious worker. The social-democrats, who had continually assured the workers that they would fight against imperialist wars, went over body and soul to the bourgeoisie. Only Liebknecht, with his small circle of sympathizing revolutionaries, stood forth opposed to the war, exposing the imperialist nature of the slaughter, voting against the granting of war credits.

Allied with such noble rebel spirits as Clara Zetkin, Rosa Luxemburg, Franz Mehring, Leo Jogiches, he organized the left wing of the social-democratic party, which later became the might Communist Party of Germany today.

Despite being conscripted into the army, he was able to carry on his revolutionary propaganda against capitalism and imperialism. For making a flamingly revolutionary speech on the 1st of May, 1916, he was seized and imprisoned. The anger of the enraged workers grew by leaps and bounds. Strikes took place all over the country. The workers were rising.

In 1918, when the monarchy was overthrown, Liebknecht and the Spartacus Bund urged the workers to take full control of the government, to make it a proletarian revolution with a proletarian rule. The socialists, true to their traitorous role, were selling out the workers to their old masters in new form. They were making underhand deals with the capitalists, while the workers waited anxiously for the outcome of their efforts.

Liebknecht and his comrades, having been freed from prison by the demand of the revolutionary workers, agitated among the workers for the creation of another republic like that which had been forged in the struggle of the Russian workers and peasants. Everywhere they urged the second uprising for the complete assumption of power. Everywhere they expose

(Continued on Page 4.)

There is almost a thousand! We want another!

THE Young Worker Weekly Campaign Fund counts as its proud possession almost \$1,000! This is the result of the drive so far. With another thousand dollars we shall be able to issue the first number of the Weekly Young Worker. We are sure that we shall have the total amount, \$2,000, by the first of March. We want the leagues all over the country to get into the last couple of months of this drive to put it over big!

Take Los Angeles for example! It was a bit slow in getting started, but, Oh, Boy! when they did start, the whole world knew about it. Two hundred dollars is their contribution to date and we'll bet a hat against a plugged nickel that they will send in some more good shekels before this drive is over.

Or take a look at what our Nucleus No. 1 in

Pittsburgh did. They took up a collection in their shop and the net result was ten bucks—otherwise known as a tenth of a hundred dollars. What other league can boast of similar success.

And Philadelphia will go over the top for sure. Another fourteen dollars and the cake is theirs. Hartford, Connecticut, has already done its stuff—we want more of the same! Boston has contributed more than half its quota, and St. Paul needs another five dollars to be near the top. Pittsburgh went more than fifty per cent over its quota and we expect more from that part of the country also.

We haven't heard a word from New York yet—we hope that they are too busy collecting money to talk about it. At any rate we want some of that money that they have collected! Send it in!

And we want to hear from all the leagues as to

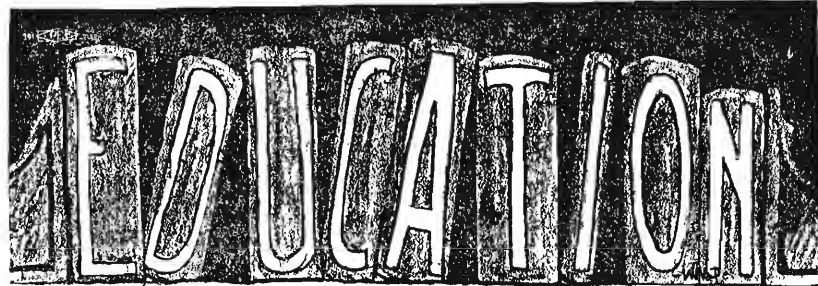
what they are doing on the drive. We want to know how the pledge cards are coming along. We want to know how many subs you have collected and how many collection lists you have filled up.

And have you done anything on the March in the Weekly Young Worker Parade? Have you sent in your contribution for it? And if not, why?

WE WANT THAT WEEKLY! ARE YOU LAYING DOWN ON THE JOB?

PUT SOME PEP INTO YOURSELF AND LET'S KNOW THAT WE HAVE A REAL YOUNG COMMUNIST ARMY WORKING FOR THE REVOLUTION!

A WEEKLY BY MARCH FIRST IS OUR AIM! SHOOT!



Youth Under Capitalism.

Lesson No. 1.

THE YOUNG WORKERS

LEAGUE, according to its constitution, was formed "to organize and educate the young of the working class to understand their true position in capitalist society" and "to work for the abolition of capitalism." But we know that the abolition to the present system of society is a task of great difficulty, one requiring hard work and sacrifices on the part of thousands of workers. The communists must have very good reasons for undertaking this tremendous task. What, then, are their objections to the present society? In the short space which we have, we can only enumerate a few of them.

Capitalism enslaves workers with the very machines which should free them. It makes the workers dependent upon the capitalists for their living and forces them to work long hours for miserable existence. It drives even little children into the factories, mines and fields to work long hours to make a few men richer. It takes the women from the homes and places them in the work shops where even the mothers must toil for bare livelihood.

The capitalist system has produced great inequalities of wealth. It has enabled a few to own the land, the factories and the mines, and to live in luxury while those who do the work do not even own their homes. In a land of unlimited wealth and natural re-

sources, it has produced the greatest of poverty. It is responsible for the unemployment of thousands of workers, a condition which grows even worse and more intensified in times of industrial depression.

When the workers in desperation, combine to improve their wretched conditions, the capitalists use the army, the police, hired gunmen and professional strike breakers to destroy the workers' organizations and defeat their aims.

War, which sacrifices the lives of millions of young workers and brings untold sufferings to many more, is caused by that struggle for world wide markets and fields for investment which is inevitable under the capitalist system.

Not only is capitalism guilty of the great wastes of war, but even in times of peace it proves itself a wasteful and inefficient system. Thru duplication of stores, offices and factories, which either distribute or produce the same type of articles, thru useless vocations such as those of lawyers, advertisers and drummers, thru the production of useless and even injurious articles, and thru the whole system of unregulated production, the gross inefficiency of capitalism is clearly shown.

The story of the present system is a story of graft and corruption in both political and industrial life a story of adulteration, short weight, misrepresentation, and bribery. It is acknowledged fact that capitalism is the principal cause of crime and prostitution, of disease and insanity.

One of the greatest indictment of the capitalist system is its treatment of the working class children. It brings them up in squalid slums and makes them the victims of under nourishment, disease and death. It herds them into insanitary fire-trap schools, where they are taught to be submissive slaves to the capitalist class. It uses the schools, the press, the movies and the church to prison their minds with the ideas of the capitalists. It takes them out of school at an early age and thrusts them into its factories and shops where they must toil for pitiable wages.

Every young communist should read "The Child of the Worker" which describes in more detail the horrible conditions of child-life under capitalism. He should also read "Youth Under Americanism" by Gannes and "The Goslings" by Upton Sinclair which explain in no uncertain terms how the capitalist control the schools of our country. The "A. B. C. of Communism" Bucharin gives, among other valuable material, many examples of the wastes of capitalism and how it enslaves the workers. Every number of the Daily Worker and The Young Worker may be looked upon as a source book for Communists; for each give many examples of misery caused by the present system, which we wish to supplant with the Communist society.

Questions:

Why do we say capitalism "enslaves" the workers?

Give examples of unequal distribution of wealth.

Name some strikes where the force of police and gunmen has been used to intimidate the strikers.

Name some of the wastes of the present system.

Give an example of government graft of which you have read recently.

How does capitalism cause crime?

How are the children of the workers treated in capitalist society?

For Leninism! Against Trotskyism!

WE reprint below the concluding installment of the declaration of the Russian Young Leninist Communist League on the position taken by Trotsky in his recent book. Let every one of our comrades study the question well, so that we shall know how better to combat the right wing tendencies which are manifesting themselves thruout the international Communist movement and which must be relentlessly fought if the correct line of Leninism is to be the guiding light of the revolutionary movement.—Editor.

The conclusions which may be drawn from this are, firstly, that on the eve of the instruction, Lenin and the whole Central Committee of the party (the "Arbeiter-Weg") still believed in the possibility of a simultaneous existence of the Constituent Assembly and the Soviets, further, that it is by no means the same thing to speak of the type of the "combined state" on the eve of our October revolution and after experiencing the dictatorship of the proletariat in Russia, finally, that great care should be exercised in the choice of comparisons.

Recognized and corrected mistakes are no longer a danger to the party, Lenin himself wrote that "it is not right to recall them." But the old mistakes become a danger to the present action if they are continued or concealed.

Comrade Trotsky invites us to study the October revolution. But October is indissolubly bound up with the whole previous and subsequent history of the party. In his various arguments Comrade Trotsky throws no light on the numerous differences of opinion between himself and Lenin, not even on the fight which he carried on against Lenin; he denies or conceals his past errors. Comrade Trotsky found himself in opposition to Lenin in the question of the role of the peasantry in the first Russian Revolution in 1905, and in the question of the "permanent revolution." Has he recognized the correctness of Lenin's point of view? Quite the contrary. He speaks of the "ideological adaptation" which Bolshevism experienced in 1917, of Lenin arriving at Trotsky's point of view, instead of vice versa. In the "Lessons of October" he actually repeats and develops the same point of view. During the war, Comrade Trotsky differed in his opinions on various fundamental questions from Lenin. Has he recognized that Lenin was in the right? Never and in no place does

he declare that he has relinquished his former points of view; he confines himself to explaining that the revolution of February and March settled the old dissensions. Nevertheless, Lenin, in his letters from abroad, which were written after the February-March revolution and have been recently published, warns the party against Comrade Trotsky's interpretations of the main question—the question of pointing the Social Chauvinists and the Centrists.

Comrade Trotsky committed one of his most serious mistakes in that epoch. Instead of acknowledging his faults with the courage of a Bolshevik, he uses every effort in his book on Lenin to minimize and veil his past errors, and that by discussing an analogous mistake which Lenin is said to have made "with less risk" at the moment of the advance on Warsaw. The greatest contrast of views between Trotsky and Lenin was in 1921 on the question of the Trade Unions; he opposed Lenin and the whole Leninist group of the Central Committee and the Trade Unions. Anyone reading the minutes of the 10th and 11th party conferences will see that Comrade Trotsky conceals and evades this mistake as he does the others. Finally, at the end of 1923 and the beginning of 1924, Comrade Trotsky appeared in the role of the leader of the petty-bourgeois anti-Leninist opposition in the bosom of the Russian Communist Party. No one has forgotten his speech at the 13th party conference in which he refused to acknowledge his mistakes although a long series of facts had refuted all the fundamental assertions of the opposition.

Comrade Trotsky justifies and minimizes his past faults. He misrepresents history and the doctrines of October. We feel it our duty to declare that Comrade Trotsky prevents the Youth from understanding the history of the party aright. His articles and speeches which are devoted to the past history of our party, are obstacles to the Bolshevik education of the Youth.

What political significance has Comrade Trotsky's action? It becomes evident in the international platform which Comrade Trotsky expounds in his most recent speeches and in his "Lessons of October." It is in reality a platform of the Right. The anticipation of a relatively long democratic pacifist era, the weakening of the German revolution etc.—these points of view reveal Trotsky as sympathizing with the Right of the Comintern. But the opportunist elements

of the C. I., as well as the petty-bourgeois "opposition" of our own party, direct their attack against the old guard of Bolshevism and their leadership in the R. C. P. and in the C. I. Comrade Trotsky comes to their assistance by blurring his former errors and his opportunist digressions, misstating the past history of the party and, in his "Lessons of October," undermining the confidence in the old cadres of Bolshevism. Comrade Trotsky makes use of his left attitude in 1917 in order to stretch out a hand to the opportunist of 1924.

We reply to the appeal of Comrade Trotsky: "Study October!" This call is obviously specially meant to appeal to the generation which did not experience October, but which is predestined to complete its work. The Communist Youth must, however, study October in its full significance: in its preparation, its completion and its continuation. It must study the exper-

ience of October in close connection with the whole history of the Bolshevik Party. The history of October of course still needs working out: but the best clues to its comprehension are in the works of Lenin.

We are, however, against such a method of study which leads to the misrepresentation of history and to the preparation of a political platform with a bias towards the Right, which is opposed to the attitude of our party and of the Comintern. Our duty is—to understand in Lenin's spirit the whole history of the party, and especially the pages referring to October. Neither the previous actions of Comrade Trotsky nor his new book can serve us as a guide on this path.

The Central Committee of the Communist Leninist Youth League of Russia.

The Moscow Committee.
The Leningrad Committee.

Liebknecht and the Workingclass Youth

By NICOLAI BUCHARIN

In the Russian Embassy in Ber-

lin we celebrated the release of Comrade Karl Liebknecht from prison. Many people were present—the society was rather mixed. There was the old revolutionist Mehring with snowy white hair, his body was already half dead, but his spirit still scintillated. There were Taase and Barth and many others with famous names and famous pasts. We all celebrated the freedom of "Karl." Some in the belief that his enthusiasm would lead the masses thru the struggles. Others, in dark fear that this "eccentric" might not interrupt the normal course of things.

All spoke, but no one made such a deep impression upon me as a young worker. A young man with one arm and a thin face with yellow cheeks. He spoke with such a firm belief in our vic-

tory that every revolutionist present left that such a generation must be victorious.

Karl himself felt this also. I remember the scene as tho it were yesterday. A long table, at one end of which the young comrade was sitting as Liebknecht rose to make his answering speech he turned his face towards the young man and his back was towards everyone else. Most of what Liebknecht said was addressed to him, for there existed a close connection; it was bound together. Liebknecht was always surrounded by the youth, it was these "children" who above all took part in the street battles and demonstrations.

Some days later the young comrade was injured in a street fight—a police sword had hit his arm-stump.

Mehring no longer lives, and Liebknecht is dead; even Haase has buried by the hangman of Scheidemann. I do not know whether the young comrade with the one arm still lives. But this I know—the German working class youth still lives, the proletariat still lives, the revolutionary spirit with which Liebknecht was baptized still lives.

This spirit once again begins to fume in the country of Noske. The day will come when it will avenge its murdered prophets and leaders.

In Memoriam—Lenin

On the 21st of January the workers the world over will hold memorial meetings for Nicolai Lenin, the leader and fighter for the liberation of the laboring masses. In connection with these memorial meetings, on Thursday, Jan. 15, a moving picture, "In Memoriam—Lenin," will be shown in the Gartner's Independent Theatre, 3725 Roosevelt Road. Two other pictures will also be shown: "Polikushka," and "Soldier Ivan's Miracle."

Admission will be 50c. Tickets are for sale now at Russian Technical School, 1902 W. Division St., Russia. Co-operative Restaurants, 1734 W. Division St. and 760 Milwaukee Ave., at 166 W. Washington St., Room 307, at the DAILY WORKER, 1113 W. Washington Blvd., and by all members of the Technical Aid Society, U. S. S. R.

SEND IN THAT
Y. W. SUB TODAY

TOILING YOUTH

By HARRY GANNES.

CHAPTER III.

Wealth Concentration and the Outlook for the Youth.

IT is not the purpose of this booklet to analyze all the forces that confront the working youth within present day society. Still, to examine the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few while the vast number are forced to become workers producing profits for the employers gives the youth a glimpse into the real nature of modern capitalist society. A study of the centralization of wealth demonstrates to the workers' children the impossibility for the mass of them ever to rise out of their class. Wealth distribution and the class forces based on it is an interesting and enlightening study for the youth, and should be undertaken by all who seek to learn the facts rather than the fancies of the capitalist system.

Nearly every one of the American young workers outside of those in the ranks of the revolutionary movement has a strong desire to become rich. This is only natural and results from the bitter surroundings which are the lot of the workers' children, and the oppressive exploitation and sweating with which they meet when they become older.

Then too we find that every source of information sets up wealth as the standard of highest achievement, and makes of money, the almighty dollar, the road to pleasure and the fulfillment of ambition. Filled with rosy dreams of a chance to become rich and powerful the youth has not yet united with other members of their class to look for a remedy for their obvious ills. As a result there is an inactive, brow-beaten working youth. After years of exploitation, when it is too late, they find they have been tricked; but the best years of their life are gone. Hard work leaves its deep mark of their bodies, and the ambition to do things disappears. Most of them marry and become conscious of the fact that they must continue to slave to make a miserable living for themselves and their little ones.

The ruling power hides the wealth distribution of this country. There was a time when the United States government took a census of the amount of money people owned, much as they now count the population every ten years. Certainly it would be most valuable information to know who in this land of equal opportunity got the wealth produced. But we are not supposed to know; and the figures are not gathered by the only source that is in a position to do it. Yet we are not entirely unaware of the identity of the class that enjoys the vast wealth created by the labor of the millions of American workers, young and old.

One reason wealth ownership is hidden in this country is that it would come into sharp conflict with the teachings in the schools. The youth would learn that they did not start out in life equally, and that the sons and daughters of the rich, who inherit the wealth of their fathers and continue to gather in more, not only start with a greater advantage than the great mass of youth, but are destined to become the ones who profit by the labor of the majority of the young people who ultimately become hand or brain workers.

Scott Nearing, who was at one time professor of economics at the University of Pennsylvania, made a thorough study of the matter of who owns the wealth in the United States. He says in his very interesting book, "The American Empire," regarding wealth ownership:

"On all hands it is admitted that the wealth of the country is concentrated in the hands of a small fraction of the people and the important wealth—that is, the wealth upon which production, transportation and exchange depends—is in still fewer hands."

But this is not admitted by our teachers nor by the papers which are controlled by those who own the wealth. These people continually harp on the idea that wealth is evenly distributed and that the young have a chance to get their share of it.

Five per cent of the people own from two-thirds to three-quarters of all of the wealth of the United States, about \$25,000,000,000. Many authorities have made investigations to find out who gets the wealth produced. About the best known of these is Willford I. King, a learned professor, who wrote a book called, "Wealth and Income of the People of the United States," in which he collected a mass of statistics. This is what he found:

Sixty-five per cent of the population own nothing; 15 per cent, a thousand dollars and under; 18 per cent, two thousand

dollars and over; while 2 per cent may be called rich, possessing \$50,000 or over."

Just recently more light has been thrown on the subject by the National Bureau of Economic Research in a book on "Income in the United States." Dr. King, who has had a great deal of experience in these things, helped prepare and gather the material for the book. One extremely important thing shown is that 86 per cent of the people of the United States receive less than \$2,000 a year, not enough for a family to enjoy "at least modest comfort." The margin of people who enjoy this modest comfort is very small, and a very insignificant number can be called wealthy.

That is not all. Some more light is thrown on the subject by the Report of the Industrial Relations Commission, a body authorized by Congress to investigate the growing discontent in 1915. Frank P. Walsh was the chairman of this commission. In the report of the commission states that two per cent of the people own 60 per cent of the national wealth and five per cent have 65 per cent.

It is pretty certain where the wealth produced by the millions of workers goes. It finds its way into the coffers of a few who rule society.

"The great fortunes of those who have profited by the enormous expansion of American industry have already passed, or will pass in a few years, by the right of inheritance, to the control of heirs or trustees who act as their 'vice-regents.' They are frequently styled by our newspapers, 'monarchs of industry,' and indeed occupy within our republic a position almost analogous to feudal lords." These heirs (the youth of the wealthy class), owners only by virtue of accident of birth, control the livelihood and have the power to dictate the happiness of more human beings than populated England in the middle ages." So says the report of the Industrial Relations Commission.

Most of the population without wealth are forced to become workers and they remain workers throughout their lives. Once in a great while (and the chance become ever slimmer) by hook or crook a crafty worker will rise. But this is the exception which proves the rule.

(To Be Continued)

THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers of America

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Liebknecht Day!

KARL LIEBKNECHT will always be remembered as one of the most fearless and incorruptible fighters in the cause of the working class revolution. In the face of one of the most corrupt social-democratic party machines, confronted by the German government of the Kaiser and then of Noske and Scheidemann, with but a small following, he braved the scorn of sceptics, the ferocious attacks of his enemies, and held aloft the red flag of internationalism while the fields of Europe were running red with the blood of workers of the world.

Karl Liebknecht typified the future; the future belongs to the youth. It was Karl Liebknecht's constant comradeship and work for the youth movement that earned for him the name of the leader of the revolutionary young workers. He was amongst the first to call for an international organization of revolutionary youth, organizationally independent from the adult parties. He was most active in organizing the socialist youth at the time when the old fakers in the social-democratic party were opposed to it. His history is one of consistent struggle against militarism, capitalist war, exploitation, and treason to the proletariat.

It is the young Communist movement that today demonstrates on the anniversary of the assassination of Liebknecht. The sixth year of his murder sees ever-growing legions of red youth rallying to the standards of revolution. The devouring monster of capitalism, torn by its own contradictions, is in its last stages of death, and needs but the last firm blows of the organized revolutionary movement to deal it a death blow.

In the United States, the strongest imperialist nation in the world, the youth is entering into a period of worse exploitation than it has yet experienced. The collapse of the so-called "prosperity" of America is bringing with it an increasing army of the unemployed. Great struggles for existence face the American workers. And in these struggles, the youth can play its part for good or ill of the working class. It can line up for struggle by the side of the rebels, giving a militant angle to the battle, bringing enthusiasm and vigor, coming forth a special section of the working class, with its own needs and interests and demands, or it can remain the tool of the capitalist class, left to break strikes, to lower wages and increase the working day, to shoot down workers in the conflicts with the bosses.

The heroic life and activity and principles of Karl Liebknecht point the way. No compromise with the exploiters of the proletariat! Always on the side of the working class!

Join with the young Communists of America, the Young Workers League, for the struggle of the youthful toilers against the terrors of exploitation and imperialist war! Unite for the victory of the working class against its oppressors!

Long live the spirit of Liebknecht!

Jobs and the Youth

DURING the late unlamented war, the order was sent throughout the country to "Work or Fight!" Those who would not enlist in the army, or, for one reason and another, could not be drafted, were obliged to do some work for "our" country. Even millionaires had to get a job for a change. Of course, it was easy pickings, and altho they received only a dollar a year from the government, they managed to walk off with millions of dollars on the side.

That was when American imperialism needed the man power of every one in the country. That was when every ounce of energy was strained to win the war for our bosses.

Nothing of the sort is happening today. With a terrible economic crisis rushing headlong to the destruction of the workers of America and other countries, thousands of workers are joining the army of unemployed every day. The jobless army already numbers millions. Workers are dying every day from starvation and cold and unimaginable miseries are becoming the daily lot of the proletarian family.

Does the government, or its controlling group, the bosses of America, now raise the cry of "Work or Fight?" Do they see to it that every worker gets a job? Do they? Not on your life!

The workers have produced too much! The bosses no longer have need of them for the production of profits. Without the slightest thought as to their welfare, the workers are turned loose on the streets like so many slaves.

Capitalism can no longer feed the masses. It cannot any longer even make a pretence at sustaining the vast majority of the population. It is now clearly up to the workers to get into action.

In all parts of the country, where unemployment is making its bitter taste felt, councils of

the jobless are springing up, with the active initiative and aid of the Communists. It is the duty of every workers, jobless or employed, to give complete support to this movement.

It is the duty, also, of the young workers to be especially active in these councils. The young workers are the first to be used as scabs in a strike, and with the simplification of the processes of labor, are used to break down the standards of living of the workers. The young workers must demand not only work or maintenance by the government and industry, but also vocational training under the supervision of the trade union, and with financial support from the government and industry.

It is the state and the boss that exploits the very lives of the youth from infancy almost and now they must be made to cough up some of their ill-gotten gains.

Only by a strenuous and uncompromising struggle can the workers fight the menace of unemployment. A united front of all workers, young and old, must be the answer to the miseries of capitalism!

Against Trotskyism!

THE national executive committee of the Young Workers League has already endorsed the statement of the central executive committee of the Workers Party with reference to the book recently published by Comrade Leon Trotsky, "Lessons of October." At this moment, when the entire international Communist movement is busily engaged in spreading the teachings of Leninism, in Bolshevizing the parties and the Young Communist leagues, it comes at an ill time from Comrade Trotsky, who has always been considered one of the leaders of the first proletarian dictatorship, to write of the historic days of the preparation for the revolution of 1917 with the two-edged view in mind of revising the role of the Bolshevik party and Comrade Lenin's tactics before, during and after October, and of arousing again the discussions which were settled at the last congress of the Russian party and of the Communist International.

We are proud to note that our brother league in Russia has been among the first to condemn the false line of Comrade Trotsky in a declaration which we began to publish in the last issue of The Young Worker and which we conclude in this one. It is the duty of the revolutionary youth, as well as of the comrades in the parties, to combat energetically the least evidence of attempts to revise the fundamentals of our movement as expressed by the tendencies manifesting themselves in the Communist movements of the important countries of the world, by Brandler in Germany, Monatte in France, Smeral in Czechoslovakia, Newbold and Price in England, Lore and other elements in this country and so forth. We recommend to the attention of our comrades in this country the careful study of the declaration of the Russian Young Leninist League on this subject.

KARL LIEBKNECHT

(Continued from page 1)

the yellow socialist and their traitorous tactics.

So effective was this small brave group in its revolutionary work, that the social-democrats' fear of their power became greater with the passage of the days.

On Wednesday, January 15th, 1919, a gang of imperialist officers raided the illegal dwelling of Luxemburg and Liebknecht, overpowered them, and then, like the cowardly swine that they were, struck them from behind, knocking them into unconsciousness.

Liebknecht was taken to a suburban forest, ordered to descend from the murderers' motor car, and before he could speak their cowardly guns had shot him thru the body. He fell dead.

His murderers are known today—as they were then. The social-democrats did not do a thing to apprehend the murderers. They were gleeful at having the lion removed. They were overjoyed to find some one to do the dirty work that they had feared to carry out.

But Liebknecht still lives. He lives in the powerful revolutionary Communist Party of Germany! He lives in the minds of the rebel working class of the entire world. His deeds are engraven in their hearts. His ideas are the flag that we are carrying to victory. His hopes are our proletarian revolution.

—R.

ROSA LUXEMBURG

(Continued from page 1)

for dead, the officers went off with Liebknecht, intent upon killing him.

A mob of brutes dragged the unconscious body of Rosa Luxemburg into another car. A vile creature named Vogel struck her once more on the side of the head with the butt end of his pistol. Then, in a sadistic rage, he put the pistol to her head and blew her brains out. Happy at their triumph in murdering a defenseless woman, they drove to the Landwehr canal and threw her dead body into it. They reported that "Rosa Luxemburg had been lynched by an infuriated mob!" With the blood still on their hands they arranged a drinking bout, smiling while their photographs were being taken.

Klara Zetkin, the co-worker of Rosa Luxemburg, wrote of her in these words:

"Socialism was for Rosa Luxemburg a dominating passion which absorbed her whole life, a passion at once intellectual and ethical. This rare woman had but one ambition, one task in life—to prepare for the revolution which to open the way to Socialism."

No truer epitaph could be put on her grave than that.

—R.

Liebknecht, Luxemburg and the Working Class Youth**WAR AND REVOLUTION.**

The 4th of August, 1914. The German social democrats offered their services to German imperialism. The Second International collapsed... Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht started a joint campaign against the war, both in public and in the press. Rosa Luxemburg gathered the left wing opposition in the country. The first declaration signed by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg against the patriotic attitude of the party leaders was published in the "Berliner Tagwacht" in autumn 1914. On December 2nd, 1914, Karl Liebknecht was the only member of parliament to refuse war credits and thereby sounded to the proletariat throughout the world the clarion call for the revolutionary class struggle.

The group of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht had two objects: against the social-jingos and against the uncertain opposition of the center who advocated a pacifist policy, endeavoring merely to end the war. The Liebknecht was compelled to join the army and Rosa Luxemburg was imprisoned in 1915, both succeeding in rousing the masses by leaflets. While in prison, Rosa Luxemburg wrote under the pseudonym "Junius," the fundamental book for the mental resurrection of socialism, "The Crisis within the German Social Democracy." Under her leadership the first issue of the theoretical organ "International" (from which her group derived its name) was published in 1915. The organ was immediately confiscated, however, the group "International" showed the masses that a true solution of the national, political, and economic problems—and an end of the imperialist mass assassination—would only be brought about by revolution! Not national defence of capitalist states but struggle for the dictatorship of the proletariat and alliance of the proletarian states, which abolish every national suppression and do not know exploitation! To realize this aim the group "International" created an illegal organization among the masses and, rousing them against war and capitalism, let them upon the way to the proletarian revolution.

The First Move.

On May Day, 1916 Karl Liebknecht led the first great revolutionary procession of the masses in Berlin. He was arrested, however, and parliament permitted his persecution. He was condemned to four and a half years hard labor, and disfranchized. Rosa Luxemburg was also imprisoned and remained in prison till the revolution. In prison she wrote the "Letters of Spartacus" in which she explained her attitude on all political questions and the international. The seed sown by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg took root. In November 1917 the revolutionary masses overthrew German militarism.

At the Head of the German Revolution.

The revolution liberated Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. Enthusiastically and with an iron energy they began the struggle against the illusions of the November revolution against the illusions of democracy; untiringly they fought for the dictatorship of the proletariat, for the soviet system. Rosa Luxemburg drafted the program of the Spartacus League. Under the leadership of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht the Communist Party was formed.

The Spartacus League (later on the Communist Party) led the revolutionary masses on. The reactionary doings of the social democratic government forced the masses to revolt in January 1919 in Berlin. Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg stood at the head of the fighting masses. The government called out counter-revolutionary troops and ordered the movement to be put down forcibly. On January 15 the white guards of the labor government assassinated Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg.

The Pioneers of the Communist International.

Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg have not only prepared the road for the German revolution but also for the Communist International. Liebknecht's attitude during the war, when the Second International failed, had a great effect upon the international proletariat. The works of

Rosa Luxemburg formed the basis for the revolutionary struggle of the working masses during war and revolution. The "Junius" pamphlet was one of the fundamental books of the Third International.

Together with the Bolsheviks, the group "International" organized in Switzerland the conferences of Zimmerwald and Kienthal where the Third International was conceived. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were the most prominent exponents of Communism when the shadows of the coming war were cast upon Europe. And when what they had foreseen came true, both of them worked in the midst of a bloody night for the dawn of emancipation.

Karl Liebknecht and the Young Workers.

For the Young Workers Movement.

The young proletarian movement received for a long time no support from the socialist parties and the trade unions. Karl Liebknecht, however, understood the needs of the working class youth and realized their importance for the class struggle. He was one of the first socialist leaders to stand for the interests of the youth. He knew that without a socialist political education of the young workers victory of socialism was not possible. He furthermore perceived the necessity for an organizationally independent youth organization whose foremost tasks would be the anti-militarist campaigns. The social-democratic party, however, wished to create only educational clubs under the leadership of adults and devoid of any fixed policy.

At various party conventions Karl Liebknecht proposed to organize and support a young socialist organization and afterwards took an active part on organizing it. Thanks to his endeavors after the International socialist congress in Berlin, in 1907, the first International Socialist Conference of the Youth took place in Stuttgart where the "International Association of Socialist Youth Organizations" was formed. Karl Liebknecht was elected a member of the first Bureau of the Youth International.

At the first International Congress of Youth, Karl Liebknecht outlined the anti-militarist activities of Youth International. He unmasked the character of militarism which does not only consist of the army, but of the police force as well, and also of an extensive system of spiritual means of coercion (school, church, justice, literature, "morals," etc.) which permeates society. The tasks of militarism are the carrying on of foreign wars and the suppression of the working class at home, both in order to satisfy the greed and guarantee the acquisitions of the capitalists. He pointed out the importance of anti-militarist and socialist propaganda by the youth organizations among the young workers before they don the military garb, the necessity to organize and utilize them for the revolutionizing of the army. He repudiated desertion as demands of the anarchists and syndicalists and said that these means prove effectual only if combined with civil war. No pacifist dreams and illusions can overthrow the armed organ of capitalism: only force can avail against it. "Don't throw away your arms, but turn them against your oppressors!"

The theses of Karl Liebknecht, adopted by the congress were sure guides to the few youth organizations which truly followed them. In most youth organizations, however, the social democratic bureaucracy prevented the application of the theses. For his views expressed at the International Congress of Youth and laid down in "Militarism and Anti-Militarism" Liebknecht went to prison for a year and a half.

Karl Liebknecht and the Working Youth During the War.

After the collapse of the Second International the advance parts of the working youth were the first to unite and struggle against the war. Liebknecht spurred them on and showed them the way. In the central European countries his statements on his refusal of the war credits on December 2nd, 1914 was distributed among the young workers. The Youth International was one of the first workers' organizations to take up again under his banner the revolutionary class struggle. Liebknecht wrote articles in the "International of Youth." Young workers formed the largest part of the processions on the First of May in 1916. They carried on illegal work among the masses. Liebknecht presided over the first illegal conference of the revolutionary German working class youth in 1916 in Jena. The international demonstrations of the Youth International in favor of Liebknecht in 1916 were the most important actions and demonstrations against the war.

Karl Liebknecht, the Pioneer and Hero of the International Young Workers' Movement.

Karl Liebknecht who struggled and died for the communist revolution was and is the incarnation of the internationalist spirit. Karl Liebknecht considered the revolutionary working class youth the mainstay of the proletarian revolution and assisted and supported it wherever possible. To the international youth movement he was not only a leader but a pioneer as well. It is hypocrisy when the social democratic and centrist youth organizations swear by Karl Liebknecht, for

with their deeds they repudiate his principles; they even belong to that party which is responsible for Liebknecht's assassination.

The Seed Planted by Karl Liebknecht Has Taken Root.

The Youth International which was reorganized during the war renewed the anti-militarist campaign as outlined by Karl Liebknecht. Having become the Young Communist International, it continued to struggle against the armed power of capitalism and worked for the creation of a rearmy, for the arming of the proletariat. The anti-militarist theses of the Second Congress of the Young Communist International adopted the principles of Karl Liebknecht's fundamental book in the present situation. In all countries the young communist leagues are fighting bourgeois militarism under the banner of Karl Liebknecht. (Struggles against the Fascists, anti-militarist propaganda in Italy, actions in France in the Ruhr—in Spain, Czechoslovakia, etc.) Our tasks have grown immediately; we have only started out, but our activities must be doubled!

A FEW QUESTIONS, COMRADE KAPLAN!

By MAX SHACHTMAN

FIRST, you maintain, and to a large extent we agree, that the N. E. C. (majority) went thru its stage of hesitation and discussion on mass work for almost a year after the second national convention; and you cite in particular the conference with Gompers in which we failed to carry out our program. Why do you conveniently forget to state that you, as a member of that N. E. C., voted consistently together with the rest of the majority on every single point, from May, 1923, to April, 1924, that you led the opposition to mass work at the second national convention; that you did not suggest a different course than the one we pursued, mistakenly, it is admitted, in our conference and post-conference activities with Gompers, but instead concurred in it heartily until almost a year later?

Second, you say that New York (where your minority is, and has been for the past couple of years, in power) "is now definitely entering the third stage in economic trade union work." Will you please inform us of a single nucleus organized in New York, a single factory campaign begun, a single instance of trade union youth activity carried on by your New York leadership? Will you please inform us, incidentally, how the New York leadership pulled a boner in its attempt to discredit the N. E. C. in the matter of the Paterson silk strike, and how the executive committee of the Y. C. I. had to reply to the New York D. E. C.'s letter in a manner that completely sustained the N. E. C. and pointed out that the minority leadership of New York had not entered the third stage of economic trade union activity?

Third, when you speak of the removal of the national junior director by the N. E. C. on the "illegitimate excuse of lack of finances," do you not mean that you have merely been removed from a paid job, an action in which you, as a member of the finance committee of the N. E. C., immediately upon your return from Moscow, were in unquestioning agreement, and changed your mind about it only about a week after you yourself had voted for it—knowing our financial condition which has not improved—in the N. E. C.? And is it not true that you are still a national junior director, without a paid job? And did you ever raise a kick about the fact that we did not have a national industrial organizer on the payroll for more than a year because of the "illegitimate excuse of lack of finances," knowing that our industrial work is at least as important as children's work?

Fourth, when you speak of Comrade Pepper and the Teapot Dome leaflet, why do you so innocently forget that it was Comrade Gannes that made the motion to print the leaflet?

Fifth, why do you say that we sent comrades into the C. M. T. C. merely "for the sake of securing information" when you know that our intention was to organize actions, as our instructions plainly state, and that the only reason why we were unable to do so was because your minority comrades who were selected absolutely refused to obey discipline and make application for the camps, leaving only one isolated comrade there? And do you forget that you voted with us to expel one of the comrades who refused to go into the camps, and that the only reason you did not concur in the cases of the others was that it would rightly discredit the phrase-mongering comrades who held your position and who talk a good revolution?

Sixth, why do you make a face of hypocritical piety about unity of both groups when you and your group have been the most active in continuing the fractional struggle, when your group has, with the finances of the Y. W. L., maintained a minority comrade in the field for the purpose of carrying on factionalism, a comrade who is at this very moment being held under charges?

And finally, what is the real basis of your minority faction which is organically united throughout the country, under your leadership, in view of the fact that your statement, despite

its misrepresentations in places, is forced to come to the very same conclusion on "The Immediate Tasks of the Y. W. L. and the Program of Action" as is reached by the N. E. C. (statement, being copied almost word for word—certainly, idea for idea if you have no other proposals for the league that are one whit different than those which have been proposed and are being carried out now by the N. E. C., why do you and your minority comrades persist in maintaining your organized machine thru out the country, a machine which wherever it can, as in New York, actively sabotages every effort of the N. E. C. to draw the comrades into the mass activity about which you know so well how to talk?

N. E. C. MAJORITY THESIS IS UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED BY SPRINGFIELD LEAGUE!

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—At a special membership meeting of 11 members of the Young Workers League of Springfield, a thorough discussion of the problems and tasks before the league was taken up. A resolution supporting the position of national executive committee of the league was passed without dissenting voice or vote.

The resolution states that the Springfield leaguers

"Are in complete agreement with the position and policies as set forth by the national committee; and

"Furthermore, we endorse the statement taken by our national committee of the situation with the Workers Party and we declare ourselves in agreement and endorse the majority thesis of the central executive committee of the correct Communist principle.

"Young Workers League of Springfield, Ill.
"John Tumulty, Secretary."

LOS ANGELES FOR MAJORITY

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—At a general membership meeting of the Young Workers League here, to discuss the policies of the league and the Workers Party, the membership went on record overwhelmingly for the position of the majority of the C. E. E. of the party and the C. E. C. of the league. Out of an attendance of 75, there were only two or three comrades who voted for the position of the minority. At a party membership meeting which followed, the thesis of the majority was endorsed by a vote of 94 to 14.

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